

Drug Policy Advisory Council Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2006

Voting Council Members Present: Director Marvin Van Haaften, Jeanette Bucklew, Charlotte Burt, Ken Carter, Honorable Robert Mahan, Dick Moore, Mary Nelson, Stewart Barnes, Jeff Hughes, Arthur Schut, Diane Thomas and Christina Wilson.

Non-voting Members Present: Col. Tim Glynn and Al Overbaugh.

Guest: Mary Schissel, Co-Chair, Alliance of Coalitions for Change

Staff Present: Becky Swift and Becky Bell.

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Director Marvin Van Haaften at 1:05 p.m. Council members introduced themselves. Director Van Haaften made a notation for purpose of the minutes that Pam Dettmann, Janet Zwick and Brian Vos were excused from the meeting; Mary Nelson would be late; and Stewart Barnes, Chris Wilson and Ken Carter would need to leave the meeting early.

Director Van Haaften congratulated Jeff Hughes on his appointment to the Council. He also congratulated Stewart Barnes and Brian Vos on their re-appointments to the Council.

Minutes

The minutes of February 9, 2006 were approved as submitted.

Alliance of Coalitions for Change

Director Van Haaften introduced Mary Schissel, Director of the Mason City Youth Task Force and co-chair of the Alliance of Coalitions for Change. Mary reported to the Council on the development of the Alliance of Coalitions for Change (AC4C) state-wide group. She stated that the community coalitions (there are currently 41) in Iowa have grown considerably and that the Alliance was established to assist the coalitions in working together, as well as better and smarter. Derek Clark, of the Clinton Substance Abuse Council, is Co-Chairing the Alliance.

The AC4C sent out a survey to all coalitions inquiring about the services they offered and would be willing to share, and what services they needed. A copy of the survey and the results was distributed to the Council members. Community coalitions working with state agencies can be very viable.

Mary reported that one of the goals of AC4C is to share information. A handout was distributed titled "More Than a Degree" which was produced by the Mason City Youth Task Force with funding provided by the Department of Health, Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning, and Drug Free Community funding through SAMHSA. Council members stated that the brochure was very good and asked how they could use it in their communities.

Christina Wilson reported that community coalitions are working together to get legislation passed regarding keg registration. Some counties are passing their own legislation. It was

reported that David Vestal of Iowa Association of Counties and Commissioner Kevin Techau, Department of Public Safety are working together on keg registration legislation.

Director Van Haaften stated that the Council could be a good asset to the AC4C.

Legislative and Congressional Updates

Director Van Haaften reported that the keg registration legislation will have a life of its own.

Jeff Hughes asked about the availability of a statewide prescription drug monitoring database for pharmacies. It was reported that HF 722 (prescription drug monitoring) had passed and was awaiting the Governor's signature. There has been discussion of adding Schedule V drugs to the database, but there is still a lot of opposition to that. Currently different pharmacies are not connected electronically, so this is an issue that will need to be addressed. Missouri has passed a law giving the state police control over their prescription drug monitoring database.

Director Van Haaften reported there has been a 22% cut to the Byrne funds that will result in the elimination of some task force positions.

Chris Wilson brought up the Safe KYDS/ Nick's Law bill that included requiring keg registration and increased penalties for providing alcohol to a minor. The bill did not pass this legislative session. Director Van Haaften believes that if counties pass multiple keg registration ordinances that will assist in the passage of keg registration, similar to what happened with the passage of SF 169 in 2005.

Charlotte Burt reported on SF 2251 concerning the well being of children and a report that is due to the legislature in 2007. She stated that her Director, Judy Jeffrey, had been in Washington, DC and reported that Senator Grassley is very supportive of Safe and Drug-Free Schools funding.

Jeanette Bucklew reported that they are in the early stages of working on the DOC '08 budget. DOC is working on converting an institution into a substance abuse treatment facility and will be visiting the facility in Sheridan, Illinois.

Art Schut would like to see the restoration of cuts at the federal level.

Dick Moore stated that the Presidents budget will eliminate all juvenile justice programs. The Senate recommendation would increase Byrne/JAG but he has some concern that they would take funding from one program to fund another.

The Iowa legislature has passed funding for juvenile drug courts.

Director Van Haaften reported that the US Senate has voted to restore Byrne/JAG to the '03 level of nine hundred million but the House has not acted and he doesn't know if it will be addressed before or after the June election.

Ken Carter stated the reauthorization of HIDTA is stable as of now and hopefully will be reauthorized. If it is not, it will be dead next year.

Tim Glynn reported that Midwest Counter Drug Training Center held a training for law enforcement that was very worthwhile and had very good attendance. The National Guard receives half of their funding through the Secretary of Defense and it is guaranteed. Both Senator's Harkin and Grassley are helping with funding for the National Guard.

Mary Nelson reported that one million dollars has been appropriated for Juvenile Drug Courts. DHS is currently beginning work on their '08 budget and is working with the Attorney General's office on the Drug Endangered Children initiative.

Diane Thomas stated that she is working with providers to make treatment better by recommending small rapid changes to increase access to treatment. She has been utilizing casino monies for treatment in the Dubuque area.

Mary Nelson also reported that the Medicaid program will allow reimbursement to mental health as a safety net. The Department of Human Services and Public Health have applied for a co-occurring State Incentive Grant together.

Al Overbaugh stated that the U.S. Attorney's office is focusing on gangs.

State Incentive Grant Update

In the absence of Janet Zwick, Becky Swift reported that the original grant has expired. A Prevention Workforce Development Committee had been formed as a result of the SIG grant and plans to continue its work. The Committee asked that DPAC serve as its oversight body. A motion was made by Dick Moore, seconded by Art Schut with the Council voting unanimously to be the oversight body for the Prevention Workforce Development Committee.

Planning for 2007

Becky reported that planning for the 2007 strategy will begin soon. She stated that there would not be changes to the results and indicators, but the Strategy would measure the progress toward the results. ODCP staff will be asking Council members for figures and accomplishments and will be updating the results area.

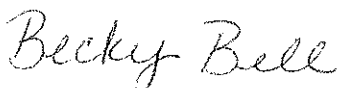
Other Business

The next meeting will be held August 10th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Ola Babcock Miller Building, 3rd Floor conference room.

The November 9th meeting will be an all day (9:30 am – 3:30 pm) legislative planning retreat held at the DCI Crime Laboratory in Ankeny.

Art Schut made a motion, Diane Thomas seconded and the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Becky Bell